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REPORT

OF THE

KEEPER AND LESSEE OF THE

KENTUCKY PENITENTIARY,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,

JANUARY, 1874.

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1874.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY, JANUARY 1, 1874.

To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

The undersigned, Keeper of the Kentucky Penitentiary, begs leave to submit the following report for the years 1872 and 1873:

The number of prisoners in the Penitentiary on the first day of January, 1872, was 585; the number that has been received since the first day of January, 1872, to the first day of January, 1874, is 670; the number discharged from the Prison, having served out the time for which they were respectively sentenced, is 336; the number discharged on account of pardons by the President of the United States, is 12; the number dis-

charged on account of pardons by the Governor, is 203; the number of escaped, is 5; the number who have died during the same period, is 72; leaving in Prison, on the first day January, 1874, 627. Of the deaths for the last two years, 21 were from small-pox, which prevailed for a time to a considerable extent, as will be seen by the accompanying report of the Physicians.

For other particulars, reference is here made to a tabular statement attached hereto, and made part of this report. Where the Governor has used the pardoning power, I have, in nearly every instance, been consulted in regard to the deportment and conduct of the prisoners receiving the Executive clemency. The number of pardons may, at first glance, appear to be great; but it will be remembered that almost all the prisoners pardoned by the Governor had nearly served out their respective terms of service for which they had been sentenced. This clemency of the Governor, in exercising the pardoning power, has a good effect on the prisoners, and has much to do in bringing them into obedience to Prison rules, as a pardon relieves them of certain disabilities imposed by law in certain cases, if only granted one day previous to the expiration of their terms. It is a source of gratification to be able to report that the small-pox (which prevailed during the last two years to such an alarming extent) has entirely disappeared from the Prison.

Two Physicians are employed in the Prison to treat the sick. One of the Physicians devotes almost his entire attention to the Prison hospital, of the management of which I invite inspection.

In April, 1872, a fire occurred in the Penitentiary, destroying the hackle-house, and resulting in a loss to the Keeper of about five thousand dollars. The origin of the fire could not be ascertained.

Improvements made to the Prison since my last report have added greatly to the comfort of the female prisoners, and enabled us to enlarge the capacity of the hospital, by which improvements contagious diseases are kept out of the main hospital. The extension of the Prison, erected since my last report, did not cost as much as was anticipated by the appropriation made for that purpose of $45,000. The extension only cost $38,662 25. The work and material on this improvement is of the best, and will last for years, unless destroyed by some unforeseen agency; but it must be borne in mind that all prisons are more susceptible of being destroyed by fire than nearly any other buildings. There have also been valuable improvements made at the main entrance of the Prison and in the office, which improvements were greatly needed.

I would call your attention to the necessity of grading the yard in the female department, and to the importance of placing in the Prison a

cistern of sufficient capacity to answer the necessities in case of fire. The report of the Prison Physicians is herewith attached, to which I respectfully refer you for much valuable information. The prisoners have generally been obedient to Prison rules.

I take great pleasure in returning my thanks to those associated with me in the management of the Prison, and to the employees of the Prison for their uniform kindness, promptness, and efficient discharge of their duties.

I invite members of each House to make personal inspection of the Prison, and will take pleasure in giving any member of either House such information relative to the management of the Prison as in me lies.

J. W. SOUTH.

STATEMENT OF PRISONERS IN THE KENTUCKY PENITENTIARY.

Total number in the Penitentiary January 1, 1872		585
Received from January 1, 1872, to January 1, 1874		670
		1,255
Served time out between January 1, 1872, and January 1, 1874	336	
Pardoned out by President Grant, between January 1, 1872, and January 1, 1874	12	
Pardoned out by the Governor, between January 1, 1872, and January 1, 1874,	203	
Escaped between January 1, 1872, and January 1, 1874	5	
Deaths between January 1, 1872, and January 1, 1874	72	
		628
Total number in Kentucky Penitentiary January 1, 1874		627

SEXES.

White males	313
White females	3
Black males	274
Black females	37
	627

CRIMES SENT FOR.

Arson	6
Armed and disguised Ku-Klux	2
Altering checks	1
Burning a barn	4
Breaking into a store	9
Burglary	27
Bigamy	3
Counterfeiting	4
Concealing birth of child	2
Detaining a white woman and knowing her carnally	1
Escape over the walls	1
Felony	26
Forgery	9
Grand larceny	313
Horse-stealing	61
House-breaking	11
Hog-stealing	11
House-burning	1
Larceny	41
Felonious larceny	12
Incest	2
Mail robbery	2
Manslaughter	12

Murder	38
Malicious wounding	19
Obtaining goods under false pretenses	8
Perjury	2
Poisoning	3.
Robbery	12
Receiving stolen property	6
Rape and attempt at same	13
Shooting with intent to kill	7
Sodomy	1
	670

TERMS OF SENTENCE.

Six months	3
Nine months	2
Twelve months	270
One year and three months	3
One year and six months	22
Twenty months	1
Two years	127
Two years and six months	8
Two years and eleven months	1
Three years	61
Three years and six months	1
Four years	71
Four years and six months	1
Five years	40
Five years and six months	1
Six years	10
Seven years	7
Eight years	3
Nine years	3
Ten years	19
Twelve years	1
Thirteen years	1
Fifteen years	2
Twenty years	7
Twenty-one years	1
For life	4
	670

COUNTIES SENT FROM.

Allen	7
Adair	5
Anderson	2
Bracken	1.

Bath	3
Breckinridge	6
Breathitt	1
Ballard	3
Bullitt	1
Barren	3
Bourbon	14
Boyd	3
Boone	4
Boyle	2
Carter	2
Calloway	6
Campbell	8
Clark	4
Clay	7
Carroll	2
Christian	14
Clinton	4
Crittenden	1
Cumberland	1
Daviess	8
Edmonson	2
Estill	1
Elliott	1
Fayette	31
Fleming	5
Franklin	14
Fulton	11
Floyd	2
Grayson	5
Graves	10
Gallatin	4
Garrard	3
Grant	4
Greenup	6
Green	2
Hancock	2
Hardin	1
Harrison	6
Hart	5
Henderson	20
Hickman	11
Hopkins	2
Harlan	1
Henry	1
Jefferson	151
Jessamine	5
Johnson	1

Kenton	28
Knox	1
Lewis	4
Laurel	1
Lincoln	9
Larue	2
Livingston	6
Logan	7
Muhlenburg	2
Madison	8
Marion	6
Morgan	1
Mason	15
McCracken	34
Mercer	5
Metcalfe	3
Marshall	1
Montgomery	5
McLean	4
Menifee	2
Monroe	1
Nicholas	1
Nelson	5
Owen	3
Oldham	3
Ohio	2
Owsley	2
Pendleton	1
Pulaski	2
Pike	1
Powell	1
Rockcastle	4
Russell	4
Robertson	1
Scott	3
Shelby	1
Simpson	4
Spencer	2
Taylor	2
Todd	4
Trigg	4
Trimble	3
Union	9
Washington	4
Wayne	5
Webster	4
Woodford	10
Warren	15

Whitley	3
Wolfe	1
Wayne	2
Total	670

NATIVITY.

Alabama	5
Arkansas	2
Canada	6
California	1
England	3
Germany	12
Georgia	2
Illinois	5
Indiana	7
Iowa	1
Ireland	12
Kentucky	422
Louisiana	5
Maryland	2
Mississippi	4
Missouri	12
New York	8
North Carolina	4
Ohio	29
Pennsylvania	8
South Carolina	3
Scotland	2
Tennessee	52
Virginia	21
Not stated	42
Total	670

OCCUPATION.

Butcher	1
Book-keeper	2
Brick-mason	5
Blacksmith	8
Barber	2
Baker	1
Chair-maker	2
Carpenter	5
Cooper	4
Cook	3
Distiller	1

Druggist	1
Engineer	2
House-servant	1
Harness-maker	2
Lawyer	2
Moulder	3
Paper-hanger	1
Painter	5
Plasterer	5
Physician	2
Shoemaker	4
Sadler	2
Stone-cutter	6
Seamstress	2
Speculator	1
Tanner	1
Tailor	1
Tobacconist	2
Trunk-maker	1
Laborers	548
Wagon-maker	2
Not stated	42
Total	670

EDUCATION.

Good	9
Common	279
None	340
Not stated	42
Total	670

SOCIAL RELATIONS.

Single	399
Married	210
Widowed	19
Not stated	42
Total	670

PREVIOUS HABITS.

Temperate	333
Intemperate	295
Not stated	42
Total	670

AGES.

12 to 16	20
16 to 20	124
20 to 30	306
30 to 40	114
40 to 50	49
50 to 60	10
60 to 70	5
Not stated	42
Total	670

PHYSICIANS' REPORT.

To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

At the time of our last report, January, 1872, as Physicians of the Kentucky Penitentiary, small-pox still prevailed to an alarming extent among the inmates. Every precaution possible, under the circumstances, was taken by ourselves and the Keeper to prevent the spread of this contagious disease. At the time, however, there was but one room in the hospital building which could be used for the sick, and there was no alternative but to place the infected patients among those sick with ordinary diseases. During the year, however, new buildings were erected for the female prisoners, and now the rooms over the hospital (formerly occupied by them) can be used for patients with infectious and contagious disease. The mortality produced by the small-pox, directly and indirectly, was large. The hospital being crowded (patients compelled to sleep on the floor), it was found absolutely necessary to confine convalescing patients in the cells much sooner than would have been done had the accommodations been adequate for them in the hospital. Pneumonia of a low type was frequently the result, and proved generally fatal.

In the last year (1873) small-pox again invaded the Prison. The mortality from this disease was only four. This we consider very favorable. It did not remain in the Prison long, although the city was afflicted for the most of the year, and the mortality was immense.

During the month of April, 1872, the hackle-house was destroyed by fire, and two of the prisoners were killed by a heavy piece of iron cornice falling upon them.

By reference to the tabulated statement accompanying this report, it will be seen that the mortality from small-pox and lung diseases excel, by far, that from all other causes combined. There are several reasons for this large proportion of pulmonary troubles. In the first place, the cell-house is badly contrived and poorly ventilated; so when a man is locked up in one of the small cells after leaving off work in a well ventilated and comfortably warmed shop, the change necessarily operates against him to a greater or less extent. Persons with a tendency to phthisic begin to decline almost immediately. Another cause is the manufacturing of hemp, more especially the hackling. This, combined with indifferent cells to sleep in, causes sickness more or less severe. It is unfortunate,

too, that the hospital should be so close to the hackle-house, as the lint and dust will collect in it. This might probably be prevented by the use of wide-gauge screens over the windows.

The situation and condition of the privy is unfortunate. It is within a few feet of the hospital, and there is not sufficient water to keep it clean. This is principally done by the fall of rain on the cell-house, which is drained through the privy. The use of disinfectants has been tried faithfully, with discouraging results. There is now a well of copperas water in the yard, from which water is pumped into the privy night and morning; but in spite of all this, enough miasm arises from it to give us serious trouble.

Another very fruitful cause is one which should engage your earnest attention. It is perfectly astonishing to see the condition of some of the convicts when first brought to the Prison. Being clothed in rags, with shoes full of holes or bare-footed, even in the coldest weather, with a constitution seriously impaired, and the seeds of incurable disease already sown by dissipation and excesses of every sort, and by their long confinement in county jails, who can be surprised that many die soon after being received? It is a fact that, since our connection with the Prison, men have died without ever having done a day's work, being put in the hospital immediately on their arrival.

During the year 1872, and the first part of 1873, the whole surrounding country was more sickly than it had been for years previously. Of course this influence caused much more sickness in the Prison during this time than there would otherwise have been. It will be observed, by the foregoing statements, that the large mortality is caused by circumstances over which the Lessee and Physicians have no control.

The present Lessee has done all in his power to assist us in preventing disease, and in the treatment of the sick. Each prisoner has been supplied with sufficient blankets in his cell. They are all comfortably clothed, and fed on good, healthy, substantial diet. We have it in our power to relieve any man from his work whenever our judgment so dictates; not only this, but the Keeper has consented that we have the right to change any man's work from one department to another, if we should think proper. We have never yet had a patient under our care whose sickness or injuries could be traced to any maltreatment or negligence of any of the Keepers or their associates. The causes tabulated refer only to those which were severe enough to relieve the men from work, and confine them to the hospital for treatment. No expense has been spared by the present management to make all the prisoners as comfortable as possible in every respect.

We are glad to say that the health of the Prison for the last six months has been all that could be desired; only six deaths occurred in that time. The Physicians who are members of your honorable body will see that most of the deaths have occurred from incurable diseases. A cordial invitation is extended to visit the hospital, as we are certain that its condition, and the manner in which it is conducted, will compare favorably with any similar institution in the country.

W. B. RODMAN,
R. W. WILHOIT.

Number of deaths occurring in the Kentucky Penitentiary from January 1, 1873, *to December* 31, 1873, *inclusive.*

Dates.	No.	Names.	Diseases.
January 13	1	Samuel Hardin	Variola.
January 14	2	Harrison Ford	Phthisis.
January 16	3	Cæsar Jones, m. c.	Valvular disease of the heart.
January 17	4	Thomas Night, m. c.	Phthisis.
January 22	5	Wm. Dangerfield, m. c.	Phthisis.
February 1	6	—— Finch	Pulmonary hemorrhage.
February 1	7	C. Branham, m. c.	Variola.
February 1	8	Wm. Day, m. c.	Pneumonia following small-pox.
February 6	9	Henry Sandbridge, m. c.	Variola.
February 27	10	Henry Brady	Pulmonary hemorrhage.
March 4	11	Jas. Landown, m. c.	Variola.
March 12	12	David McDaniel, m. c.	Phthisis.
March 12	13	George Leach, m. c.	Cerrhosis.
April 25	14	Mary Miller	Phthisis and syphilis.
April 27	15	W. C. Smith	Phthisis.
May 6	16	Andrew Holwell, m. c.	Phthisis.
May 7	17	John Davis, m. c.	Pneumonia.
May 9	18	Jane Chenault, w. c.	Syphilis and phthisis.
May 13	19	Wm. Boyd	Pneumonia.
June 20	20	Wm. Austin, m. c.	Pericarditis.
June 30	21	F. C. Campbell	Apoplexy.
July 22	22	David Barnell, m. c.	Phthisis.
August 1	23	Julius Landersled	Gastritis.
August 2	24	Benj. Ridge	Softening of brain from masturbation.
September 4	25	Wm. Johnson	Pneumonia.
September 23	26	Nelson Vivian, m. c.	Softening of brain from masturbation.
December 4	27	Wm. Conegan, m. c.	Pneumonia.

Total number of deaths		27
Variola	4	
Phthisis	7	
Phthisis and syphilis	2	
Pulmonary hemorrhage	2	
Pneumonia	4	
Pneumonia following small-pox	1	
Valvular disease of the heart	1	
Cerrhosis	1	
Apoplexy	1	
Gastritis	1	
Softening of brain from masturbation	2	
Pericarditis	1	
		27

Number of deaths occurring in the Kentucky Penitentiary from January 1st, 1872, to December 31st, 1873, inclusive:

Dates.	No.	Names.	Diseases.
January 3	1	James Merrie	Malignant variola.
January 6	2	Jacob Johnson	Stricture of bowels.
February 7	3	Barny McCoy	Cearhosis.
March 1	4	R. M. Pery	Phthisis pulmonalis.
March 23	5	George Thomas, m. c.	Confluent variola.
March 30	6	J. M. Davis	Complicated variola.
April 12	7	Wm. Canterbury	Malignant variola.
April 14	8	J. J. Wise	Killed by falling cornice at fire.
April 15	9	Robert Adams	Killed by falling cornice at fire.
April 16	10	Westly Jones, m. c.	Phthisis pulmonalis.
April 19	11	George Webber	Typhoid pneumonia.
April 21	12	David Winn, m. c.	Pneumonia.
April 26	13	John Bailey, m. c.	Pneumonia.
April 29	14	John Andrews	Pneumonia.
May 3	15	John Zandy, m. c.	Phthisis pulmonalis.
May 6	16	T. M. Zaycock	Variola and pneumonia.
May 11	17	Chas. Williams	Pneumonia.
May 20	18	Samuel Milligan, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
May 21	19	John Brooks	Masturbation.
May 24	20	John Ayres	Cerebral effusion.
June 9	21	Champ Cooper, m. c.	Confluent variola.
June 12	22	Peter Green, m. c.	Phthisis pulmonalis.
July 14	23	H. Compton	Malignant variola.
July 25	24	John Isle	Inflammation of bowels.
August 14	25	Ed. Thomas, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
August 17	26	Frank Denton, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
August 22	27	Tom Guy, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
August 25	28	Henry Norton, m. c.	General tuberculosis.
August 27	29	Jeff Conn, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
August 27	30	Philip Wright, m. c.	Epilepsy.
August 31	31	William Adkins	Marasmus.
September 1	32	William Golden	Typhoid pneumonia.
September 5	33	John Jordan, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
September 7	34	William Johns	Phthisis pulmonalis.
September 20	35	Henry Williams, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
September 21	36	Jerry Robinson, m. c.	Fatty degeneration of heart.
October 13	37	Mary Wade, w. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
October 23	38	C. Pain	Typhoid pneumonia.
October 25	39	C. Taylor, m. c.	Pneumonia.
October 26	40	Ben Bauley, m. c.	Pneumonia.
November 29	41	Jacob Barker, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.
December 4	42	Geo. Rose, m. c.	Pneumonia.
December 13	43	Harrison Portwood	Pneumonia.
December 21	44	Jas. Hocumb	Pneumonia.
December 27	45	D. Miles, m. c.	Typhoid pneumonia.

Total number died	45
Variola, malignant	3
Variola, confluent	2
Variola, complicated	3
Pneumonia	8
Pneumonia, typhoid, and as sequela from variola	12
Phthisis pulmonalis	5
Cerrhosis	1

Epilepsy	1	
Cerebral effusion	1	
Marasmus	1	
Masturbation	1	
Inflammation of bowels	1	
General tuberculosis	1	
Killed by falling of cornice at fire	2	
Valvular heart disease	1	
Strangulation of bowels	1	
Fatty degeneration of heart	1	
		45

Number of cases treated in Kentucky Penitentiary from January 1st, 1872, to January 1st, 1873.

Abscess	18
Asthma	5
Amputation of toes	2
Amputation of fingers	6
Amputation of legs	2
Bronchitis	45
Burns	5
Cerebritis	2
Colic	17
Debility	21
Diarrhœa	30
Dyspepsia	2
Diphtheria	4
Dysmenorrhœa	2
Epilepsy	3
Erysipelas	14
Fever, intermittent	25
Fever, continued and typhoid	32
Fever, remittent	16
Fever, spotted	1
Frost-bites	5
Felons	11
Fistula in ano	7
Fractured leg, compound	1
Fractured leg, simple	3
Fractured hand	2
Fatty disease of heart	1
Gonorrhœa and gleet	7
Gastritis	3
Hemorrhoids	15
Hemorrhage	15
Hernia	3
Hydrocele	2

Hepatitis	3
Inflammation of bowels	3
Inflamatory sore throat	20
Cirrhosis	3
Neuralgia	7
Onanism	14
Opthalmia	7
Pneumonia	63
Phthisis	27
Paralysis	3
Pericarditis	2
Pleuritis	5
Prurigo	3
Rheumatism	13
Retention of urine	4
Syphilis	14
Struma	10
Stricture of bowels	1
Ulcers, chronic	13
Variola	55
Varioloid	60
Dropsy, cardiac	3
Wounds	17
Orchitis	6
Tuberculsis of joints	4
Ulcers of rectum	3
Jaundice	2
Dislocated arm	1
	689

Diseases occurring in the Hospital of the Kentucky Penitentiary from January 1, 1873, *to January* 1, 1874.

Asthma	7
Angina, simple	14
Apoplexy	2
Bronchitis	35
Diarrhœa	35
Cholera morbus	6
Chronic catarrh	3
Chorea	1
Coup de soleil	1
Cerrhosis	1
Dyspepsia	10
Dysentery	11
Erysipelas	14
Epilepsy	3

Fever, intermittent	42
Fever, remittent	16
Fever, typhoid	12
Felons	6
Gonorrhœa	4
Gastritis	1
Hamorrhoids	9
Hamoptysis	4
Hepatis	3
Hernia	6
Jaundice	4
Mumps	24
Neuralgia	7
Onanism	17
Opthalmia	10
Organic heart disease	7
Pneumonia	43
Pleurisy	6
Phthisis	23
Pericarditis	3
Paralysis	3
Pregnancy	1
Rheumatism	13
Syphilis	21
Struma	10
Variola	14
Varioloid	13
Excision of testes	1
Wounds	15
	480